

Awareness among Patients of Jammu Regarding Dental Implants as Treatment Option for Replacement of Missing Teeth

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Abstract

Background: Dental implant has gained importance over the last few years. The higher success rate of dental implants with >95% survival in 5 years is considered a successful dental implant therapy. The present study was conducted to assess awareness among the population of Jammu regarding dental implants as a treatment option for missing teeth.

Materials and Methods: The present study was conducted on 580 patients visiting the department for replacement of missing teeth. Patients were provided with a questionnaire and asked to respond to it.

Results: Of 580 patients, males were 350 and females were 230. We found that 30% were aware of RPD as options for missing teeth, 25% of FPD, and 30% of dental implants and 15% all of the above options. The source of information regarding dental implants was friends in 0%, dentists in 70%, and social media in 20%; 80% were well informed regarding dental implants by the dentist and 10% moderately well. Reason for opting for dental implants was high success rate in 65%, esthetics in 20%, and function in 15%, the reason for not opting for dental implants was cost in 55%, long treatment time in 30% and need for surgery in 15%, 40% replied that everyone should opt for dental implants, 35% replied rich patients, and 25% replied, they I do not know. About 60% replied that it demands special treatment and care, 20% replied no, and 20% replied that I do not know. About 60% think that the main complication of dental implants was a failure, infection by 30%, and I do not know by 10%. About 68% replied that they would recommend friends/family about dental implants, 12% replied no, and 20% I do not know. Suggestion to make people aware of dental implants was dental education by camps by 18%, newspapers by 24%, and dental awareness by dentists by 58%.

Conclusion: The authors found that patients had sufficient awareness regarding dental implants as a treatment option for missing teeth.

Key words: Awareness, Dental implants, Fixed partial denture

INTRODUCTION

Oral rehabilitation is the option in dentistry which deals with the diagnosis, treatment planning, and management of diseases.^[1] It also covers an area of edentulism which comprised crowns or replacement of teeth with a

removable partial denture (RPD), fixed partial dentures, or with implants. RPD may be considered in few cases due to its low cost, but the biggest drawback with RPD is soft- and hard-tissue injuries due to clasps of RPD.^[2] Fixed partial denture (FPD) eliminates the drawback of RPD since it does not use clasps, but there is also a limitation since replacing a single tooth, anterior, and posterior teeth need to be prepared. This leads to cold sensitivity in some cases. The main role of prosthodontics is the replacement of missing teeth in patients.^[3]

A dental implant has gained importance over the last few years. The higher success rate of dental implants with >95% survival in 5 years is considered a successful

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dental implant therapy. However, certain factors such as availability in remaining bone with sufficient bone height and width and presence of underlying pathologies are some hindrances to the therapy. The high cost is one of the main cause of not considering a dental implant as the preferred option for replacing missing teeth. Patients have a lack adequate awareness and knowledge regarding dental implant as a treatment modality.^[4]

Thorough complete information on implant treatment and alternative therapies must be provided to guide the patient in the choice of the most suitable option. This problem is more magnified in developing nations, where there is a lack of education and awareness among people about dental implants as a dental treatment modality.^[5] The present study was conducted to assess awareness among the population of Jammu regarding dental implants as a treatment option for missing teeth.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present study was conducted in the Department of Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics, Institute of Dental Sciences, Sehora, Jammu, India. It comprised 580 patients visiting the department for replacement of missing teeth. Ethical approval was obtained from the institute before the study. All patients were informed regarding the study and written consent was obtained.

General information such as name and age was recorded. A thorough clinical examination was done. Patients were provided with a questionnaire and asked to respond to it. The results thus obtained were tabulated and subjected to statistical analysis. $P < 0.05$ was considered significant.

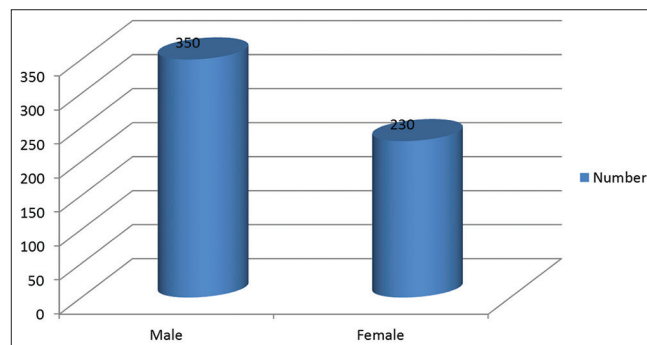
RESULTS

Table 1 and Graph 1 show that of 580 patients, males were 350 and females were 230.

Table 2 shows that 30% were aware of RPD as options for missing teeth, 25% of FPD, and 30% of dental implants and 15% all of the above options. The source of information regarding dental implants was friends in 10%, dentists in 70%, and social media in 20%; 80% were well informed regarding dental implants by the dentist and 10% moderately well. Reason for opting for dental implants was high success rate in 65%, esthetics in 20%, and function in 15%, the reason for not opting for dental implants was cost in 55%, long treatment time in 30%, and need for surgery in 15%, 40% replied that everyone should opt for dental implants, 35% replied rich patients and 25% replied, they I do not know. About 60% replied that it demands special treatment and care,

Table 1: Distribution of patients

Total – 580		
Gender	Males	Females
Number	350	230



Graph 1: Distribution of patients

20% replied no, and 20% replied I do not know. About 60% think that the main complication of dental implants was a failure, infection by 30%, and I do not know by 10%. About 68% replied that they would recommend friends/family about dental implants, 12% replied no, and 20% I do not know. Suggestion to make people aware of dental implants was dental education by camps by 18%, newspapers by 24%, and dental awareness by dentists by 58%.

DISCUSSION

Replacement of missing teeth by means of an implant-supported prosthesis for esthetic and functional rehabilitation has to turn out to be an established and extensively used treatment modality in dentistry. The treatment of edentulism with traditional removable dentures is less accepted due to many factors such as anatomical, physiological, psychological, and also prosthodontic factors such as it can often induce impaired masticatory function due to limited retention and stability, especially in the lower jaw.^[6] However, with the advent of new technology, more restorative options have become available, thereby changing the demand for prosthodontic treatment. Implant treatment has come into focus since this treatment option has provided excellent long-term results by increased retention, stability, functional efficiency, and quality of life.^[7] The present study was conducted to assess awareness among the population of Jammu regarding dental implants as a treatment option for missing teeth.

In the present study, of 580 patients, males were 350 and females were 230. Saha *et al.*^[8] conducted a cross-sectional study among 483 subjects requiring artificial appliances for missing teeth. Of 483 participants, 290 were males and

Table 2: Questionnaire used in the study

Questionnaire	Percentage	P-value
What are different options for missing teeth?		
RPD	30	0.17
FPD	25	
Dental implants	30	
All of the above	15	
What is your source of information regarding dental implants?		
Friends	10	0.01
Dentist	70	
Social media	20	
How well you are informed regarding dental implants by dentist?		
Very well	80	0.001
Moderately well	10	
Not informed	10	
What is your reason for opting for dental implants?		
Success rate	65	0.02
Esthetics	20	
Function	15	
What is reason for not opting for dental implants?		
Cost	55	0.04
Long treatment time	30	
Need for surgery	15	
Who should opt for dental implants?		
Everyone	40	0.15
Rich patients	35	
I do not know	25	
Do you think it demands special treatment and care?		
Yes	60	0.01
No	20	
I do not know	20	
What do you think main complication of dental implants?		
Failure	60	0.01
Infection	30	
I do not know	10	
Would you recommend your friends/ family about dental implants?		
Yes	68	0.02
No	12	
I do not know	20	
What is your suggestion to make people aware of dental implants?		
Dental education by camps	18	0.05
Newspapers	24	
Dental awareness by dentists	58	

193 females. Around 41.7% of the subjects were aware of dental implants, but still, few (4.1%) had undergone this procedure. Dental professionals were the main source of information followed by media about implants and level of awareness increased with education. The high cost of the procedure was the main factor for not undergoing treatment procedure (35.2%).

We found that 30% were aware of RPD as options for missing teeth, 25% of FPD, and 30% of dental implants. The source of information regarding dental implants was friends in 10%, dentists in 70%, and social media in 20%. We found that 80% were well informed regarding dental implants by the dentist and 10% moderately well. The reason for opting for dental implants was a high success rate of 65%. The reason for not opting for dental implants was cost in 55% cases. About 60% replied that it demands

special treatment and care. About 60% think that the main complication of dental implants was a failure, infection by 30%. Suggestion to make people aware of dental implants was dental education by camps by 18%, newspapers by 24%, and dental awareness by dentists by 58%.

Sinha *et al.*^[9] conducted a study found that among the 1000 responses retrieved, 27% of the respondents felt moderately well informed about the dental implant treatment. Only 9% of the respondents had dental implant treatment before, and 17% felt well informed about the different alternatives of replacing missing teeth. Dentists were the main source of information regarding dental implant treatment modality followed by friends and electronic media. A total of 55.6% of the respondents felt implant to be as good as own teeth in function, whereas high cost was the major limiting factor for implant treatment.

Arora *et al.*^[10] determined the sources, level of awareness, and need for information about dental implants among patients attending the OPD in 200 patients. About 74% had not heard about the implant as a treatment modality. Most of the participants who were aware had a higher education level. The dentist was the main sources of information about dental implants (38%), and most of them were found to have the interest to know about implants (69%). About 51.5% were willing to go under the treatment if needed.

CONCLUSION

The authors found that patients had sufficient awareness regarding dental implants as a treatment option for missing teeth.

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